



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hovland et al. Examiner: To Be Assigned  
Serial No.: 10/750,380 Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
Filed: December 29, 2003 Docket: 2316.1646US01  
Customer No.: 23552  
Title: Telecommunications Connector Protective Device

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 407363487 US  
Date of Deposit: February 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Teresa Anderson  
Name: Teresa Anderson

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing.
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 1 Reference.
- Submission of Formal Drawings, 6 Sheets of Formal Drawings.
- Return postcard.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By: Alan R. Stewart  
Name: Alan R. Stewart  
Reg. No.: 47,974  
ARS:pll



10/750,380

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Hovland et al.	Examiner:	To Be Assigned
Serial No.:	10/750,380	Group Art Unit:	To Be Assigned
Filed:	December 29, 2003	Docket No.:	2316.1646US01
Customer No.:	23552		
Title:	Telecommunications Connector Protective Device		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 407363487 US  
Date of Deposit: February 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Teresa Anderson  
Name: Teresa Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

The drawing attached is of a commercially available product marketed and sold by ADC Telecommunications, Inc.. It is admitted to be prior art as of the date of filing of the above-referenced application.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,  
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: February 18, 2004

By:   
Name: Alan R. Stewart  
Reg. No.: 47,974  
ARS:pll



<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION &amp; DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number:</b> <b>2316.1646US01</b>	<b>Application Number:</b> <b>10/750,380</b>
	<b>Applicant:</b> Hovland et al.	
	<b>Filing Date:</b> December 29, 2003	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> To Be Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

		ADC Telecommunications, Inc., Dust Cap for Fiber Optic Connectors (Admitted Prior Art)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	